

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 11th October 1890.

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## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Ahammadi" ... ..	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	First fortnight of Asvin 1297 B.E. 30th Sept. 1890.
2	"Hitakari" ... ..	Kushtea ...	30	
3	"Kasipore Nibasi" ... ..	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....	
4	"Navamihir" ... ..	Ghatail, Mymensingh	.....	
5	"Sahayogi" ... ..	Burrisal ...	.....	
6	"Uluberia Darpan" ... ..	Uluberia ...	.....	
Weekly.				
7	"Arya Darpan" ... ..	Calcutta ...	102	29th ditto.
8	"Bangavasi" ... ..	Ditto ...	20,000	4th Oct. 1890.
9	"Banganibasi" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	30th Sept. 1890.
10	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ... ..	Burdwan ...	302	
11	"Charuvarta" ... ..	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	29th ditto.
12	"Dacca Prakash" ... ..	Dacca ...	1,200	5th Oct. 1890.
13	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly ...	885	3rd ditto.
14	"Gramvasi" ... ..	Ramkristopore, Howrah	800	6th ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjika" ... ..	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	26th Sept. and 3rd Oct. 1890.
16	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ... ..	Berhampore ...	.....	
17	"Navayuga" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	2nd Oct. 1890.
18	"Pratikar" ... ..	Berhampore ...	600	3rd ditto.
19	"Rungpore Dikprakash" ... ..	Kakinia, Rungpore ...	.....	2nd ditto.
20	"Sahachar" ... ..	Calcutta ...	500	1st ditto.
21	"Sakti" ... ..	Dacca ...	.....	30th Sept. 1890.
22	"Samaj-o-Sahitya" ... ..	Garibpore, Nuddea ...	.....	5th Oct. 1890.
23	"Samaya" ... ..	Calcutta ...	3,806	3rd ditto.
24	"Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto ...	4,000	4th ditto.
25	"Sansodhini" ... ..	Chittagong ...	.....	
26	"Sarawat Patra" ... ..	Dacca ...	300	6th ditto.
27	"Som Prakash" ... ..	Calcutta ...	1,000	3rd ditto.
28	"Sudhakar" ... ..	Ditto ...	2,580	4th ditto.
29	"Sulabh Samvad" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	3rd ditto.
30	"Surabhi o Pataka" ... ..	Chandernagore ...	700	
Daily.				
31	"Banga Vidyá Prakashika" ... ..	Calcutta ...	500	3rd and 4th Oct. 1890.
32	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	3rd, 4th and 6th to 9th Oct. 1890.
33	"Dainik o Samachar Chandrika" ... ..	Ditto ...	1,500	5th to 9th Oct. 1890.
34	"Samvad Prabhakar" ... ..	Ditto ...	800	3rd, 4th, 6th and 7th Oct. 1890.
35	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	300	3rd, 4th, and 6th to 9th Oct. 1890.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
36	"Dacca Gazette" ... ..	Dacca ...	.....	
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
37	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika." ... ..	Darjeeling ...	20	
38	"Kshatriya Patrika" ... ..	Patna ...	200	



No.	Names of newspapers.			Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	Weekly.					
39	"Aryāvarta "	...	...	Calcutta	800	27th Sept. 1890. 30th Sept. and 7th Oct. 1890. 25th Sept. and 2nd ditto.
40	"Behar Bandhu "	...	...	Bankipore	.....	
41	"Bhārat Mitra "	...	...	Calcutta	1,653	
42	"Desī Vyāpāri "	...	...	Ditto	.....	
43	"Sār Sudhānidhi "	...	...	Ditto	500	
44	"Uchit Baktā "	...	...	Ditto	4,500	
	PERSIAN.					
	Weekly.					
45	"Jāum-Jahānomah "	...	...	Calcutta	250	
	URDU.					
	Weekly.					
46	"Aftal Alum Arrah "	...	...	Arrah	300	29th Sept. 1890. 24th ditto. 3rd Oct. 1890.
47	"Al Punch "	...	...	Bankipore	.....	
48	"Anis "	...	...	Patna	.....	
49	"Gauhur "	...	...	Calcutta	196	
50	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad "	...	...	Murshidabad	.....	
51	"Urdu Guide Darussaltanat "	...	...	Calcutta	340	
	URIA.					
	Monthly.					
52	"Asha "	...	...	Cuttack	.....	18th Sept. 1890. 17th ditto. 20th ditto.
53	"Pradīp "	...	...	Ditto	.....	
54	"Samyabadi "	...	...	Ditto	.....	
55	"Taraka and Subhavartā "	...	...	Ditto	.....	
	Weekly.					
56	"Dipaka "	...	...	Cuttack	.....	18th Sept. 1890. 17th ditto. 20th ditto.
57	"Samvad Vāhika "	...	...	Balasore	205	
58	"Urya and Navasamvād "	...	...	Ditto	600	
59	"Utkal Dīpikā "	...	...	Cuttack	444	
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.					
	BENGALI.					
	Fortnightly.					
60	"Paridarshak "	...	...	Sylhet	450	29th ditto.
61	"Silchar "	...	...	Silchar	500	22nd ditto.







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

English interference in Afghan affairs.

The *Sahachar*, of the 1st October, apprehends another Cabul war from the following circumstances :—

SAHACHAR,  
Oct. 1st, 1890.

1. Though the surplus in the budget amounts to nearly three crores of rupees, yet the income-tax has not been abolished. One-and-a-half crores of rupees have been set apart as a famine fund, but nobody believes that that fund will not be applied to any but its legitimate object.
2. Colonel Sandeman is silently annexing the whole of Beluchistan to British India, and soldiers are being daily sent there under the pretext of surveying the country; the object of this latter measure being to invest Afghanistan on the south and the east.
3. The attempt to construct railways towards Cabul and Candahar.
4. The Amir has been asked if a British officer will be permitted to reside in his capital.
5. The proposal to send a mission to Cabul.
6. The publication of articles against the Amir in the *Times* newspaper. Sir Mortimer Durand, who is a restless officer and now in England, is probably the writer of these articles.

The clique at Simla wants to bring the Amir down to the level of a Scindia or a Holkar. But this will never happen even if the Amir wishes it. The ultimate result will be that the Amir will lose his life and his sons will fly from the country. The Amir will never consent to the proposal to station a British official in Cabul, for no one can be a guarantee for his life while there. Though Russia is making conquests in Central Asia, and has already snatched away several good provinces from Persia and Turkey, still people love and trust her. England is, on the other hand, distrusted by the people of every country in Asia, and even her favours are received with suspicion. The Government of India should bear all this in mind. It may declare that it is not willing to take any part of Afghanistan, but nobody will believe it. All Asia ceased to believe in the political honesty of the English the day they took the Punjab from the boy Dhulip Singh. Everywhere in Asia the impression now prevails that if the English can once manage to secure a footing in any country, they are sure to annex it in the end. Government should therefore give up the idea of constructing railways to Cabul and Candahar, otherwise the Amir will take the aid of Russia and will thereby hasten a collision of England with that power—a collision which it has been always the intention of Government to avoid. It should also be borne in mind in this connection that England has already insulted the greatest Mahomedan power in the world by occupying Egypt, and that the annexation of Afghanistan will displease her Indian Mahomedan subjects. The policy which has been hitherto followed towards Afghanistan seems to be the best. English soldiers will only be welcome in Afghanistan if they are sent there at the request of the Amir to help him in case of a Russian invasion of that country. But if they are sent before they are wanted, they will be regarded as enemies by the people of Afghanistan. The country has been thrice overrun by English soldiers, and sufficient time has not elapsed to enable its people to become friendly to the English. This being the case, it is useless to try to bring them under control. But the clique at Simla cannot remain quiet; and as there is no check upon the public exchequer in this country, and the people have no voice in the disposal of public money, a few restless Civil and Military officers do what they like



to further their own private interests. The Congress has not therefore appeared too soon.

SUDHAKAR,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

The Amir's recent Durbar in Cabul.

2. The *Sudhakar*, of the 3rd October, has the following :—

The Amir of Afghanistan indignantly said at the Durbar that was held in Cabul on the 1st September last, that he would by all means in his power oppose the project which the English Government had formed of laying railway lines in his dominion without taking his permission. The whole Durbar room rang with rejoicing at this heroic and stern resolution of the Amir. And then the political Maulavi from Muscat delivered an address in very forcible language, in which he referred to the oppression of the Afghans by the English, and the duplicity of the English towards the Amir Yakub Khan, and their crooked policy in regard to the Cashmere State. He also very vividly described the treachery and ingratitude of the English. The Maulavi's thrilling speech greatly excited the assembly.

The Amir expressed his approval of the opinion expressed at the Durbar that the English should never be allowed to set foot on Afghan soil.

The result of the Durbar cannot be favourable to the British Government. It is hoped that the authorities will do their best to keep up friendly relations with the Amir with a view to ensuring the safety of the North-Western frontier. The Afghans will surely lay aside their hostile attitude towards the English if the latter give up their railway scheme. The only course now left to the English is to bear everything with patience.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

ULUBERIA DARPAN,  
Sept. 30th, 1890.

3. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 30th September, notices the occurrence of several cases of theft at Uluberia during the last few months. On the 4th of

Ashwin there was a daring case of house-breaking at the house of Dr. Kunja Behari Nandi. The doctor lost articles worth nearly Rs. 500. The offenders have not been traced up to this time. These thefts are principally due to the lethargy of the local police. Some detectives should be posted at Uluberia.

BANGABASI,  
Oct. 4th, 1890.

4. The *Bangabasi*, of the 4th October, says that the Government is convinced that a large number of criminals escape punishment in Bengal, and in the

recently-published Resolution appointing the Police Committee the Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government has not omitted to hint at the cause of this failure of justice. The police come in for a share of blame, but the people too are blamed by the authorities. It is remarked that the Bengalis are a very vicious people, that they bribe the police, that they do not interfere even when they find police officers slipping in their duty, that they do not make any endeavour to put down thieves and dacoits, and so forth. It is also stated in the Resolution that the police and the people are both equally bad in Bengal. The writer is not sure that, while writing this part of the Resolution, the Chief Secretary did not read the description of a Bengali given by Lord Macaulay, or that at any rate he had not that description in his mind.

A comparison is made in the Resolution between Bengal and England, and England is pronounced to be the better country as regards the desire of the people to help in the detection and punishment of offenders. Of course it goes without saying that England is the better of the two countries; but the fact is that the people of Bengal dare not give any information against



a police which is worked on English principles by English officials. The District and Sub-divisional Officers support the police, and the Indian police is expressly intended to keep the people in a state of perpetual fear. It is not, therefore, in the power of the people to correct the police with the help of the law. It is the system of administration and not the people which is responsible for the failure of justice referred to in the Resolution. The people see that they cannot check the police and are therefore obliged to please it. There will be no improvement in this respect so long as the Magistracy continue their present practice of deciding in favour of the police in all cases brought against it by the people. It is unjust to blame the people for defects in the administration of criminal justice. They can only adapt themselves to circumstances. The defects complained of would have had no existence had the police performed its duties conscientiously.

5. The *Som Prakash*, of the 6th October, takes exception to the appointment of three men who are all officials as members of the Police Committee, and says

Police reform.

that impartial non-official gentlemen of a high moral character should have been appointed in their place. One or two native gentlemen of distinction should also have been associated with the European members of the Committee. As it is, the Committee will prove a failure. The exclusion of Assistant Superintendents and higher-grade police officers from the scope of the enquiry is also objectionable. There are a good many illiterate and worthless men among the Assistant Superintendents of Police, and it is for this reason that the Bengal Provincial Conference recommended the abolition of their post. The exclusion of these men from the scope of the enquiry, as well as the appointment of only Government officials as members of the Committee, must, therefore, have been made with the object of protecting that class of officers. The Lieutenant-Governor has said that as the subordinate police officers are recruited from among the natives of the country, the police has necessarily the vices of the natives. But as police officers are not selected from among respectable classes of natives, His Honour should not have thus cast reflections on the native character.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

6. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st October, says that the people of this country are peace-loving, law-abiding, and well-disposed towards their rulers. Even the

The passing of enhanced sentences by the Magistracy.

hardest villains among them do not behave like the low class people of London and Liverpool. But in cases where the latter are fined only a few shillings the natives of this country are sent to jail for as many months. But even this severity displayed by the Magistrates in this country in punishing offenders does not satisfy Government, and it is urging them to pass harder sentences. No wonder that such a policy should result in the emasculation of the people, making it more and more difficult for Government to obtain good recruits for the army. But be that as it may, consistency requires that Government should ask all classes of Magistrates to pass harder sentences. European Magistrates generally pass very light sentences on European offenders. So long as Government did not interfere with the discretion of Magistrates in passing sentences, nobody held it responsible for the discharge or the nominal punishment of European offenders. But now that it has begun to interfere with that power of discretion vested in the Magistrates, it is its duty to rebuke its European Magistrates who pass light sentences on European offenders. The other day, the European soldier who killed a native at Delhi was fined only Rs. 25. Now, if a native of this country had killed a European and a Native Deputy Magistrate had fined the murderer Rs. 25, would not that officer have been dismissed from the service

SOM PRAKASH,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

SAHACHAR  
Oct. 1st, 1890.



that very moment? If Government now does not rebuke its European Magistrates for invariably treating the European offenders with leniency, people will accuse it of trying to increase race antagonism by showing undue partiality to its own people. Government itself is responsible for having brought matters to this pass. In an evil moment did Lord Lansdowne consent to issue the police circular, and they are not certainly far-sighted men who advised His Excellency to take that step.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Oct. 5 h, 1890.

7. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 5th October, says that as peons often do not, or cannot, serve Court processes properly, these should be henceforward served by post, and by peons only in special cases when the parties have been identified by village punchayets. In such cases the punchayets should be paid a nominal fee for their trouble. It is hoped that Government will give effect to these proposals.

The service of summonses, &c., by Court peons.

(d)—Education.

NAVAMIHIR,  
Sept. 30th, 1890.

8. The *Navamihir*, of the 30th September, says that the last Middle Vernacular and the Vernacular Scholarship Examinations were finished in the month of Mágh 1296 B.E. (corresponding to the latter part of January or beginning of February of 1890), but the passed candidates have not yet received their certificates. This has prevented those successful candidates who wish to be admitted to the Survey or Medical Schools from getting themselves admitted. They have therefore to lose one entire year. The Inspector of Schools, Dacca, should see that the passed candidates receive their certificates without undue delay.

Delay in the granting of certificates to successful candidates in the Dacca Division.

ULUBERIA DARPAN,  
Sept. 30th, 1890.

9. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 30th September, says that as the night school which has been established at Baneshwarpore is not likely to become permanent without Government aid, such aid should be granted to it by Government.

The night school at Baneshwarpore.

SUDHAKAR,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

10. A correspondent of the *Sudhakar*, of the 3rd October, writing from Dacca, says that the early hour, namely, 10 A.M., at which work commences in the Dacca Madrassah greatly inconveniences the students. The arrangement tells especially on their health, as they have to eat a very hasty meal and run to school immediately after. The hour should be, therefore, altered from 10 A.M. to 11 A.M. No doubt an hour is a short interval of time, but it will enable the students to eat their meals slowly and thus to keep good health.

The Madrassah used to open at 11 A.M. before the new Superintendent's time, but he has changed the hour to 10 A.M. for reasons which are not known to the public.

GRAMVASTI,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

11. The *Grámvási*, of the 6th October, says that there is no proper distribution of work among the Sub-Inspectors of Schools in the Howrah district. There are three Sub-Inspectors and six thanas in that district, and instead of allotting two thanas to each Sub-Inspector, the District Board has allotted some portion of one thana to one Sub-Inspector and another portion to another Sub-Inspector. Has the Howrah District Board no responsible head?

Division of work among the Sub-Inspectors of Schools in the Howrah district.

BEHAR BANDHU,  
Oct. 7th 1890.

12. The *Behar Bandhu*, of the 7th October, complains that no vernacular language is fixed as a subject in any of the University examinations of the North-Western Provinces. The result is that the *alumni* of the University remain all their lives deficient in the knowledge of the current languages of the

Some educational matters of the North-Western Provinces.



Provinces. The introduction of the vernacular languages into the curriculum of the University will not only have the effect of making its *alumni* well versed in those languages, but may also facilitate the teaching of the various subjects of study through their medium.

The writer must here also point out the irregular system which prevails in the North-Western Provinces in the selection of text-books for different schools. The complete absence of physical and moral training has also a bad effect on the students. The education system of the North-Western Provinces would be placed on a more solid foundation if primary schools were opened in every village, where an elementary knowledge of some of the fundamental subjects might be imparted to little boys in their own vernaculars.

13. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 7th October, says that the Syndicate of the Calcutta University and the Ripon College case. the Syndicate and its supporters in the Ripon College controversy are still expecting that the Viceroy as Chancellor will uphold their decision regarding that college in disregard of the views of thirty-eight members of the Senate including the Chief Justice himself. But it is simply to insult His Excellency to expect that he will shew so much discourtesy to the Senate. It is also rumoured that the members of the Syndicate will resign in a body in case His Excellency accepts the decision of the Senate, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Gurudas Bannerji, resigning first. The *Pioneer* hurls this as a threat at the Viceroy. The paragraph which has appeared in the *Pioneer* in this connection, although printed in Allahabad, was no doubt penned in Calcutta, and the author of it will be found somewhere in Calcutta or in Darjeeling. Thanks to the Ripon College, the learned members of the Syndicate have made a most scandalous exhibition of themselves. The case has shown not a few fellows of the University in their true colours, and will serve only to confirm the public conviction that they are not fit for the offices they have been appointed to fill.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Oct. 7th, 1890.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

14. The *Grámvásí*, of the 6th October, says that the management of ferries and pounds in the Hooghly and Howrah districts. Hooghly and Howrah is extremely unsatisfactory. This is due to the want of proper supervision by the local authorities. People will be greatly benefited if at least one Inspector be appointed in each district to look after the ferries and pounds.

GRAMVASI,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

15. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 26th September, says that The Managership of the Nalhati State Railway. as the Nalhati State Railway has been managed with great ability by Baboo Ramgati Mukherji, who is about to retire on pension, there should be no objection to the appointment of a native as his successor in the managership of that railway.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
Sept. 26th, 1890.

16. The *Grámvásí*, of the 6th October, has come to know that the Howrah District Board has asked its Chairman, Mr. Fiddian, to enquire which of the three roads, viz. that from Uluberia to Shampore, that from Jagatballabhpor to Amta, and that from Hakona to Rishri, is absolutely necessary and should be constructed first. The writer is of opinion that it is the road from Uluberia to Shampore that should be first taken in hand, because the traffic on this road is the largest.

GRAMVASI,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

17. A correspondent of the *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 9th October, says that the portion of the Howrah-Jhapordah road from Domjur to Sulup is repaired every year. The repair commences in the month of Bhadra and is

BENGAL EXCHANGE  
GAZETTE,  
Oct. 9th, 1890.



completed a few days before the Puja. And as no carriages are allowed on the road during the time it is under repair, people are put to very great inconvenience. Instead of repairing the road every year, it should be repaired thoroughly and once for all. This year the contractors who have undertaken to repair the road have prohibited the running of carriages even on that portion of it which is not under repair, and have thereby caused great inconvenience to respectable people. The authorities should look to the matter.

(h)—General.

PRATIKAR,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890

18. Referring to the circular of the Board of Revenue conferring certain privileges on dismissed clerks of district offices in regard to their appeals, the *Pratikar*, of the 3rd October, says that the value of the boon conferred on the poor clerks by the Board, such as the right of getting copies of the order of dismissal, and of putting questions and making answers at the hearing of the appeal against such order, has been greatly reduced by the clause in the same circular that the rights of question and answer must be exercised by the appellant himself and not through a lawyer. The writer fails to see the objection to allowing the appellants the benefit of the services of a lawyer in cases which affect their most vital interests.

PRATIKAR.

19. The same paper says that attempts are being made to neutralise the benefit the Indians expected to derive from the raising of the age limit for the Civil Service Examination. The full number of marks in Sanskrit has been cut down, and those in Greek and Latin have been raised. And it has also been recently decided by the Secretary of State that as a part of the examination the candidates should also be required to perform arduous physical exercises. There is every likelihood that the Indian youths will be excelled by English competitors in this subject. Of course other shifts must be resorted to where education and knowledge fail.

PRATIKAR.

20. Referring to the approaching departure of Sir Steuart Bayley from Bengal before his time, the same paper says that, though it is not expected that the same rulers will govern a country for all time, yet it cannot be denied that a frequent change of rulers is detrimental to the interests of the ruled.

Sir Steuart Bayley has all along tried to please his subjects, and has made only a few errors in his administration. But to err is human, and Sir Steuart Bayley is only a human being. He cherished the Self-Government institutions in the country with tenderness. His policy in the Tipperah affair showed how generously His Honour was inclined to treat the allied princes. On the whole Sir Steuart's *regime* has passed off quietly, the indigo affair in Jessore having been the only cause of disturbance. May His Honour continue to discharge his duties in England in the enjoyment of sound health!

No one has yet been nominated as Sir Steuart's successor in the Lieutenant-Governorship. But it signifies nothing who succeeds Sir Steuart Bayley. If that successor be a good ruler, the period of his administration will quickly come to an end, but if he is otherwise his period of office will appear too long to the people.

URDU GUIDE  
DARUSSALTANAT,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

21. The *Urdu Guide Darussaltanat*, of the 3rd October, says that in Behar the assessment of the income-tax has been made in a most inequitable manner.

The Income-tax.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
HANDRIKA  
Oct. 5th, 1890.

22. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 5th October, has heard a rumour that Government contemplates nominating for District Magistrateships four men, one from each of the four communities, namely, the Hindu, the Mahomedan, the Christian and the European. But will Government, in making

Nomination of Deputy Magistrates  
for District Magistrateships.



these nominations, be guided solely by considerations of caste and creed, and not by those of fitness of the candidates themselves? Mr. C. N. Banerjee is mentioned as one of the nominees? He is still a fourth grade Deputy Magistrate and is thirtieth on the list. Moreover, he has yet given no proof of any exceptional ability. But if a man is considered able simply because he has been to England and become a barrister by giving dinners, then Mr. Banerjee must be admitted to be an able man. But it is not rare to find men like him in the High Court and even in the Courts of Munsifs. He could not earn a good name while at Chuadanga, and one does not know why he has been nominated for a District Magistrateship.

23. The *Grāmvasī*, of the 6th October, says that as people are often put to great difficulty in consequence of their ignorance of the stamp law, and have some-

Registration matters.

times to pay penalty under that law, a great benefit will be conferred upon the public if the Sub-Registrars take the trouble to hang up in their offices lists showing the proper stamp required for different documents, as also the registration fee to be levied on each. It would also be very convenient for people if they could get their documents registered and returned to them on the very day they were presented.

Increase of public expenditure in India.

24. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 9th October, has the following:—

GRAMVASI,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

BENGAL EXCHANGE  
GAZETTE  
Oct. 9th, 1890.

Englishmen must consider it their good fortune that the destinies of India have been entrusted in their hands. One could not even dream that a nation of shopkeepers like the English should come to be the rulers of a heavenly country like India. Englishmen have now become all-devouring, and the people can expect no peace or prosperity under them. To give some instances of this:—In 1857, the English army in India numbered 254,000 soldiers, and it cost India 15 crores of rupees to maintain them. That army has now been reduced by 54,000 soldiers, but the cost has increased to 25 crores. Where does this increased expenditure come from? It comes from a dying and starving people who have been deprived even of their necessities of life. Questions regarding India are occasionally put in Parliament, but they are summarily disposed of as soon as they are put. Last year when the question of increased expenditure in India was raised in Parliament, Sir John Gorst said openly and in a fearless manner: "Yes, the expenditure has been increased; it will be necessary to increase it still more; it can by no means be reduced." What can be more arbitrary than what is expressed in these words of Sir John Gorst? These words simply ignore the right of the people of India to have a voice in the disposal of their money. The Mahomedans were certainly not more oppressive than the English. It is now rumoured that henceforward no questions regarding India will be allowed to be put in Parliament. Some think that fear of Russia has compelled Government to adopt this course. Be that as it may, the people of India will fare worse if the rumour proves true, for once the fear of Parliamentary interference is gone, the Government will be more oppressive than it is now.

25. The *Dainik-o-Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 9th October, refers to the Agricultural Conference now sitting in Simla, and says that agricultural teachers

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Oct. 9th, 1890.

The Simla Agricultural Conference.

should not be imported from England. The ex-students of Cirencester, like Babu Girish Chandra Basu, may with advantage be employed as teachers in the proposed agricultural schools and in the existing forest schools at Dehra Dun and Puna.

The Conference will have to be mainly guided by the reports drawn up by Dr. Voelcker from his inspection of the various parts of the country. The writer feels certain that the Conference will direct its attention



solely to the question of the improved cultivation of wheat, jute, teel, linseed, and cotton, articles which form the major portion of India's export trade with England.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Oct. 5th, 1890.

26. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 5th October, has the following on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill:—

The proposal to award compensation to persons the charges brought against whom have been proved to be false will, if given effect to, produce more harm than good. The fear of having to pay compensation will deter people from bringing charges against others, and so a large number of offenders who would otherwise have been brought to justice will henceforward go unpunished. Speaking generally, offending police officers and bad characters will have a very easy time of it. It is difficult to make out the real intention of Government in the matter. It says, on the one hand, that Bengalis encourage wrongdoers instead of assisting the police in bringing them to justice, and, on the other hand, it tries to stop the mouths of complainants by providing their liability to pay compensation.

### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
Sept. 26th, 1890.

27. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 26th September, says that the flood waters have subsided in the Murshidabad district, leaving the country a barren waste. The houses on the Bhagirathi in Azimgunge, Jeagunge, Murshidabad, Lalbagh, and Berhampore are for the most part either levelled to the ground or left in a condition which will not withstand the ravages of another rainy season. To save Berhampore from similar disasters in future years it has been proposed to increase the height of the Bhagirathi embankment.

The *rabi* crop generally yields a good return in years of flood. But the disastrous flood of the present year has left the peasantry even without the means of sowing the crop.

The rapid fall of the river forebodes an unusual scarcity of water in a very short time.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

28. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 3rd October, says that the Bhagirathi has again commenced to rise and this has struck terror into the hearts of the people. All the indigo and pulse crops sown on *deára* lands have been destroyed, causing a loss of about 5 lakhs of rupees. There has also been a heavy and continuous downpour of rain from the 21st to the 29th September last, but this is expected to be beneficial to the rice crop. The outturn will be very plentiful if the crop is not injured by stormy weather in the month of Kartik. The loss caused in Bagri by the breach in the Lalitakuri embankment will, it is expected, be to a certain extent compensated for by the yield of the Rarh districts.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI.

29. A correspondent of the same paper says that the village of Araya and some others in the Murshidabad district have been all but destroyed by a storm. To add to the distress of the people there was also a heavy downpour lasting for some days.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

30. The *Som Prakash*, of the 6th October, says that Government has sanctioned the distribution of Rs. 30,000 as tuccavi grants among the flood-stricken people of Kushtea in the district of Nuddea. Under this arrangement Rs. 3 to 4 only will fall to the share of each man, so that the object for which the tuccavi is granted will not be accomplished at all.



## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

31. The *Gauhar*, of the 24th September, says that the Queen's Proclamation is wilfully violated at every step. For instance, all the posts in the public service carrying fat salaries and large influence are exclusively reserved for Europeans, and Europeans are also largely employed in posts which, by the terms of the Proclamation, should have been reserved for the natives only. The difference made in the salaries of natives and Europeans holding similar posts also shows that the natives and Europeans are not treated without distinction of caste and creed as enjoined in the Proclamation. The different treatment received by the various nationalities of India and by the Europeans in the Indian jails also points to the same invidious distinction.

GAUHAR,  
Sept. 24th, 1890.

32. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 29th September, says that few rulers like Sir Steuart Bayley ever graced the Bengal *musnud*. The cool shade of Sir Steuart's administration gave to the people of Bengal the same repose and refreshment after the hot and burning administration of Sir Rivers Thompson as the administration of Lord Ripon gave to the people of India after that of Lord Lytton. Taken by themselves, both Lord Ripon and Sir Steuart Bayley have been rulers eminently worthy of respect, but they appear in a still more favourable light when viewed in comparison with their respective predecessors. Sir Steuart Bayley will vacate his office in December next before his time. Bengal will miss His Honour sorely. Though it is not easy for a Lieutenant-Governor to penetrate the mist and gloom which envelope the Secretariat, His Honour did his best to serve the people of these provinces. And though a Lieutenant-Governor must always find it difficult to keep himself aloof from the influence of the Civil Service, Sir Steuart never hesitated to punish offending members of that service, like Glazier, Beames, Phillips and Beadon. The high-handed Civilians of Sir Rivers' *regime* conducted themselves very cautiously under Sir Steuart's rule. Surely he must possess administrative abilities of a very high order who could keep Civilians of that class in check. Bengal should be grateful to His Honour for the support and encouragement he has given to Self-Government. Under His Honour several natives have been admitted to higher posts under the Government. On the whole, Sir Steuart Bayley has ruled Bengal in a sympathetic and affectionate spirit. The only blot on His Honour's administration is the indigo affair in Jessore. But people will soon forget that and only remember his good qualities.

CHARUVARTA,  
Sept. 29th, 1890.

33. The *Navamihir*, of the 30th September, expresses its sorrow at the approaching departure of Sir Steuart Bayley from Bengal before his time, and says that the people of Bengal have lived very happily during the four years of his administration. His Honour has been a kind-hearted ruler and a great friend of the poor. Bengal can hardly expect to have another such kind-hearted and upright ruler again. May God grant long life to Sir Steuart Bayley!

NAVAMIHIR,  
Sept. 30th, 1890.

34. The *Sakti*, of the 30th September, says that Sir Steuart Bayley is going to leave Bengal. Mr. Mackenzie of the Central Provinces, or Mr. Fitzpatrick of Hyderabad, or Mr. Elliott, Member of the Viceregal Council, will succeed him as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It is not necessary for anybody on this occasion to indulge in panegyric, to feel flattered by hopes or to become depressed with sorrow. Sir Steuart Bayley's successor must be a civilian. If he chances to be a bad ruler he can be even worse than Sir Rivers Thompson, but if he be a good ruler he can at best be Sir Steuart Bayley's equal, but go no further. He will neither be a Reay nor a Connemara, for the Civil Service can never produce a Reay or a Connemara.

SAKTI,  
Sept. 30th, 1890.



BEHAR BANDHU,  
Sept. 30th, 1890.

35. The *Behar Bandhu*, of the 30th September, says that the people of Bengal, Behar and Orissa are sincerely sorry to hear that Sir Steuart Bayley will vacate his post in December next, before the full term of his office has expired. During his whole administration His Honour never did a wrong act knowingly.

SAHACHAR,  
Oct. 1st, 1890.

36. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st October, regrets to say that the good understanding which formerly existed between the people and the European officials of Government is fast disappearing, and in many places the officials are treating the people not as their friends, but as their enemies. This change in the attitude of the officials towards the people is not wholly due to the Congress movement. Since the inauguration of that movement, however, the ill-feeling cherished by the officials towards the people has reached its maximum. While the European officials do not miss any opportunity of taunting and showing contempt for the people, and become extremely angry whenever the latter venture to do or say anything contrary to their wish, the latter also are determined not to take every act of the former in a submissive spirit. At present the officials are trying to shut the mouths of Bengalis and of educated classes generally, but the people in the North-Western Provinces, the Punjab, the Deccan and other provinces of India are also doing what is being done by educated Bengalis. It is true a few Mahomedans and a few Hindus are now keeping aloof from the movement set on foot by the educated classes, but this defection is not destined to last long, and will disappear with the spread of education in the country. If therefore the Government of India does not interfere in time and give the necessary instructions to its officials, India will become a second Ireland. Let it not allow itself to be deceived by the statement made by Lord Dufferin and the Anglo-Indians that the educated classes are nobodies and wield no power or influence. In Ireland, the number of educated men is small, but those who are not educated nevertheless follow the lead of Mr. Parnell and his colleagues. Such is also the case here. There was a time when the district officials could do anything they liked. But now, as Sir Auckland Colvin has said, the dead bones of Indians have received life, and they themselves have become reanimated. It therefore behoves the rulers to shape their policy accordingly. The Government is no longer ruling an ignorant and timid people, but educated "British citizens," who know well what their rights are. To suit the altered condition of the country, the government must be carried on entirely on different principles. The people are ready to show respect to the authorities, but that respect is certainly not like that which a slave shows to his master.

SAHACHAR.

37. The same paper says that, as every one of the officers who have been named as probable successors of Sir Steuart Bayley is a native hater, none of them should be appointed to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. Having regard to the altered times and the large area and population of Bengal, an English statesman should be appointed to rule the country. The civilians who stay long in this country acquire many bad notions which make them unfit for the duties of a ruler.

SAHACHAR

38. The same paper asks, have the merchants of Manchester, who now evince so much interest in the welfare of the Indian factory labourers, paid anything to relieve the distress of the people suffering from the effects of floods and scarcity. Has Lord Cross, who is now asking the Government of India to pass a Factory Act, ever paid anything to the distressed people of India or advised Her Majesty the Queen-Empress to imitate the conduct of the Emperor of Austria and to send aid to her distressed Indian subjects? The



people of India ask for no favour from the merchants of Manchester, and will feel thankful if they only desist from doing them any harm.

39. The *Navayuga*, of the 2nd October, says that the only way in which the Hindu community can put an end to the agitation of the so-called reformers on the Hindu marriage question is to get up a counter-agitation with the object of putting a stop to late marriages among women. A woman feels the craving for sexual intercourse after her first menstruation, and if kept without marriage long after that, she is tempted to satisfy that craving by unlawful means. It is for this reason that cases of foeticide are so common among women who marry late. A law should therefore be passed for punishing people who keep their daughters unmarried after their 14th year. Late marriage is productive of more mischief than early marriage. And as the law proposed above will, if passed, do no harm to any community, there should be nothing to prevent the Hindu community to agitate in the matter. Does not the *Bangabási* newspaper think it proper to get up the agitation?

NAVAYUGA,  
Oct. 2nd, 1890.

40. The *Urdu Guide Darussaltanat*, of the 3rd October, says that the peace-loving character of the British Government should induce it to stop the contemplated representation of Mahomed on the British stage, for such representation is calculated to hurt the feelings of Her Majesty's Mahomedan subjects.

URDU GUIDE  
DARUSSALTANAT,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

41. The same paper says that the Bengalis have opened a school in Sobhabazar in Calcutta for giving a military training to the Bengali youths. This school has been started with the object of frightening Government into making concessions to the Congress. The writer remarks that it is one thing to play the soldier with a wooden sword in hand and quite a different thing to wield the real weapon on the field of battle.

URDU GUIDE  
DARUSSALTANAT.

42. The *Sudhakár*, of the 3rd October, says that the English Government has, so far as is possible for a Government of aliens and foreigners, shown the greatest favour and liberality towards the accursed Mahomedan community. By making arrangements for the teaching of Arabic to the Mahomedans, and by showing proper regard to the educated Moulavis, the Government has upheld the sanctity of Islam and arrested the decline of the Mussulman community. In fact, the Mahomedans have not had so long any occasion to consider India as anything but a "Darul Islam" (a country where Mahomedans can perform their religious ceremonies without hindrance). For all this the Mahomedans cannot be too grateful to the English Government. And it is this considerate treatment of the Mahomedans that has induced them to overlook any shortcomings of their rulers. It is this liberal policy of the English that is the real corner-stone of their empire in the east.

SUDHAKAR,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

43. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Burdwan says that though papers like the *Bangabási* and the *Sanjivani* repeatedly aver that the Hindus bear no grudge to the Mahomedans, and that the Congress aims at promoting the well-being of both the Hindu and the Mahomedan community, the conduct of a Hindu official, no other than Mr. R. C. Dutt, the Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan, clearly shows that the Hindus do look upon the Mahomedans as their enemies. Mr. Dutt has since his transfer to this district filled all vacancies that have occurred under him with Hindus to the total exclusion of Mahomedans. He has even dismissed some Mahomedan officers under him, and the few who still hold their appointments know not what to do. May it be asked if the Magistrate has even taken the trouble to read the Government Resolution, dated the 27th January 1886? If he has, the

SUDHAKAR.



writer is unable to explain his conduct otherwise than by attributing it to his unwillingness to act contrary to his national feelings.

SUDHAKAR,  
Oct. 3rd, 1890.

44. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Furreedpore, says that at the present time the Mahomedan does not sacrifice cows with the object of wounding the religious feelings of the Hindus; he has sacrificed cows since time immemorial in the performance of his religious ceremonies. But no objection was ever made to these sacrifices before now. It is only recently that the whole Hindu community, led by Sriman Swami, has commenced yelling against the practice of cow-killing by Mahomedans, without considering for a moment to what disastrous results their opposition may lead.

The Hindus are a worthless people compared with the Mahomedans. They are cowards, whilst there is not a Mahomedan who will not sacrifice even his life for the sake of his religion. To be killed in a jihad is to a Mahomedan the most virtuous act in this world. How then do a people whose sole aim in life is to serve as slaves to others, dare to meddle with the religious ceremonies of a people like the Mahomedans?

Was not cow-killing as objectionable to a Hindu when he used to fatten on the salary he received from the Badshas and the Nawabs, as it is now? But he had not then a moment's thought to bestow on such subjects, being wholly occupied with flattering his Mahomedan masters. It is doubtful whether the number of cows sacrificed at the present time is even a hundredth part of that killed during the reign of the Mahomedan kings, and under the very superintendence of the Hindus. Why then should the practice wound the feelings of the Hindus now, if it did not wound the feelings of and interfere with the religion of their forefathers?

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Oct. 5th, 1890.

45. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 5th October, says that, though the fact of English officials being at the root of the quarrels between Hindus and Mahomedans has been proved to a great extent, still the writer is not disposed to believe it, because to do so would be to convict the officials of gross thoughtlessness. If Government dissatisfies Hindus in this manner, it is not unlikely that it may one day find itself in the same situation in which the Emperor of the Moguls, who was master of 40 lakhs of soldiers, found himself. But after all the officials do not deserve blame for fomenting quarrels between Hindus and Mahomedans, for good rather than evil is likely to come out of these quarrels. The enjoyment of uninterrupted peace is gradually emasculating the Indian races, and it is therefore desirable that there should be occasionally quarrels between them—quarrels which may serve to keep up their martial instinct.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Oct. 5th, 1890.

46. The *Dainik-o-Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 5th October, says that a few cases have been quoted in the Police Resolution in which girl-wives were killed by their brutal husbands for not having consented to cohabit with them. But those are exceptional cases and cannot be accepted as justifying the proposal to raise the age of consent. If those cases justify the raising of the age of consent, that age will have to be indefinitely raised, for even full-grown women have been known to refuse to cohabit with their husbands. The fact is that early marriage is not responsible for cases like the above, which will continue to happen from time to time, and that whether girls are married at an early or at a late age. There can be no doubt that early marriage is in accordance with the Hindu Shastras, and that its abolition will be an interference with the Hindu religion. It is also certain that increasing the age of consent will necessitate increasing the age of marriage.



47. The *Grámvási*, of the 6th October, draws the attention of the Postal authorities to the vagaries of the post peon of the Shampore Post Office. It is said that the peon leaves letters in wrong places, and when taken to task for it threatens to burn the letters.

The post peon of Shampore.

GRAMVASI,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

48. A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh* of the 6th October, says that the owner of the steamer plying between Rajmehal and Ingerajabad is in the habit of disembarking the passengers on the way under the pretext that the machinery of the steamer has got out of order. On one occasion the passengers were compelled to disembark at Bhutai on the way to Ingerajabad simply because the steamer was required by the Commissioner of Rajshahye, who wanted to go to Ingerajabad in order to superintend the arrangements for the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The steamer service between Rajmehal and Ingerajabad.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Oct. 6th, 1890.

49. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 7th October, says that it is clear that the English rulers hate the native newspapers. The writer is at a loss to ascertain the reason of this hatred, unless it be that the native papers are very impartial and outspoken. They have spread enlightenment over the land and taught the natives to see things in their true colours and to be outspoken and have enabled them to perceive the object of the Englishman's crooked policy. That the native press has done all this for the country must be admitted even by the rulers themselves, though not openly, at least secretly in their hearts. It is the native press that has pointed out to the people the dangerous character of the policy their rulers are following and roused them to a sense of the danger that threatens them. Perhaps it is these services rendered to their mother country by the native papers that have incensed the rulers. All sorts of attempts are being made to injure the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. The fault of the *Patrika* is that it is very outspoken and will not spare even its own "guru" if it catches him tripping. The Government is displeased with the native press, but its displeasure signifies nothing. Whenever Government does any wrong act, the conductors of the native press will do their duty by condemning it with the view of getting it remedied. It is the policy of the English to oppress the people and to frown upon them whenever they complain of that oppression. But no amount of frowning will make the native editors swerve from the path of justice. The English may hate them, but that will not make them lose sight of the object which they have set themselves to accomplish.

The Government and the Native Press.

BENGAL EXCHANGE  
GAZETTE,  
Oct. 7th, 1890.

50. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 8th October, after giving some instances in which Bengali gentlemen are said to have distinguished themselves by their courage, coolness, and other manly virtues, proceeds to make the following observations:—"What will Englishmen now say to Bengalis? Englishmen should rest assured that with time and encouragement Bengalis can conquer not only Englishmen but all the nations of the world. Even Macaulay, a Bengali-hater as he was, was compelled to speak in terms of praise of the extraordinarily keen intellect of the Bengali.

The conduct of Englishmen towards Bengalis.

BENGAL EXCHANGE  
GAZETTE,  
Oct. 8th, 1890.

"Englishmen! you are earning a livelihood, after having obtained a footing in India, with the help of Bengalis, and yet you have commenced to commit oppression on those very Bengalis. Is this conduct a proof of your civilization? That you have acquired so much renown and so much importance is simply because you have obtained a footing in India. For otherwise you would have had to remain the islanders that you are. Have the Bengalis injured you so much that you do not feel any hesitation in robbing them of their bread? But remember that everything in this world is only for a few days."



BENGAL EXCHANGE  
GAZETTE,  
Oct. 9th, 1890.

51. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 9th October, has the following on the poverty of India:—

Poverty of India under English rule.

India, which was once sought for its wealth by beggars from various countries, has now been reduced to extreme poverty in consequence of severe oppression and incessant looting by greedy *dasyus* (robbers). India's wealth is now in the hands of foreigners. It is for this reason that she is looking up to others (for redress) and broods with anguish over her past glory, power, and prosperity. It is then pointed out that it is the English who have reduced India to poverty and aggrandized themselves at her expense. Their present power and prosperity are all owing to their occupation of India, and yet they are so devoid of *dharma* that they are trying to ruin and impoverish that very country. It was with the greatest difficulty that the English obtained a footing in the country, and they have now become its masters! What a momentous change for them! It looks like a dream. Bravo, Englishman! bravo to your cunning and artfulness! It is not Englishmen alone, but a great many other foreign peoples who have ruined India. The only object with which all these foreigners sought India was to enrich themselves at her expense.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD  
Sept. 26th, 1890.

Apprehended failure of the paddy crop in the Simulia out-post of the Balasore district.

52. The *Uriya and Navasamvād*, of the 26th September, gives a list of villages in the Simulia outpost of the Balasore district where the paddy crop is said to be in a precarious state owing to want of rain water. The District Collector is requested to keep himself constantly informed of the state of the crops in those parts of the Balasore district where there is any ground for apprehending scarcity of food in the near future.

SAMVADVAHIKA,  
Sept. 18th, 1890.

Improved prospects of the crops in the Balasore district.

53. The *Samvādvāhikā*, of the 18th September, reports that a few seasonable showers of rain have dispelled all fears of scarcity of food from the minds of the cultivators in the Balasore district, and that from the state of the weather a few more such showers are expected.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Sept. 20th, 1890.

Rainfall in the Cuttack District.

54. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of the 20th September, reports satisfactory rainfall in different parts of the Cuttack district.

SAMVADVAHIKA,  
Sept. 18th, 1890.

The Lieutenant-Governor's approaching visit to Orissa.

55. The *Samvādvāhikā*, of the 18th September, is happy to notice that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will be in Orissa in the next winter to preside over the ceremony of the installation of the minor Raja of Mayarbhanj on his ancestral guddee.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Sept. 20th, 1890.

56. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of the 20th September, does not approve of the constant enactment and repeal of the Income-tax Act. If it is decided that the tax should

be made permanent, incomes under Rs. 2,000 a year should be exempted from it. But if the abolition of the tax be determined upon, it should be abolished once for all.

UTKALDIPIKA

Management of the property of their husbands by unchaste Hindu widows.

57. The same paper would like to see a change introduced into the Hindu law as regards the management of their husbands' property inherited by unchaste Hindu widows. The writer is of opinion that Hindu widows who are proved to bear an immoral character should not be allowed to hold the property that they have inherited from their husbands and that has vested in them.



## ASSAM PAPERS.

58. A correspondent of the *Silchar*, of the 22nd September, says that,

Scarcity in the hills in North Cachar.

owing to the failure of the crops in the North Cachar hills, scarcity has made its appearance among the people residing in those hills, and that if relief arrangements are not made in time, it will assume serious proportions. There would not have been so much distress among the hill population if there had been a railway or a cart road to import food-grain from Cachar or Nowgong.

SILCHAR,  
Sept. 22nd, 1890.

59. The *Paridarshak*, of the 29th September, says that, though

Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Mr. Quinton has been a year in Assam, a review of this period of his administration reveals nothing of importance. It is signalled only by his hatred of the natives. During his late visit to Sylhet a deputation waited on him with an address, in which the educated natives of Assam prayed for the introduction into that province of the system of filling up vacancies under Government which obtained in Bengal. But when the Chief Commissioner saw that the deputation consisted entirely of pleaders of the local bar, he quite forgot himself and lost his temper, perhaps considering himself thrown in the midst of a number of Congressists, and made indirect attacks upon the deputation, the *alumni* of the Calcutta University in general, and, lastly, high education itself. Such is his antipathy to high education that he asked the Headmaster of the Sylhet School if all the school-going boys of Sylhet were receiving their education with the view of ultimately becoming Extra Assistant Commissioners.

PARIDARSHAK,  
Sept. 29th, 1890.

In spite of his dislike for high education, was it proper for an officer in his position to insult gentlemen who had come to him at his own invitation? Mr. Quinton said without any reserve that the *alumni* of the Calcutta University were unfit for their work, both physically and morally. He also said that academic distinction was no proof of fitness for public service, but that there should be *other qualifications*. He would not have said so had he been himself a graduate of any university. The *other qualifications* referred to by Mr. Quinton mean nothing but ability to make the most obsequious *salaams*. The people of India are now fully aware of the state of things even in England itself—how people even there are nowadays hankering after posts in the public service; and Mr. Quinton's blaming the natives of Assam for looking for Government appointments only shows that he has not yet been able to rid himself of the influences of the province whence he has come to Assam and where the *Pioneer* is all-powerful.

Mr. Quinton commenced taking objection to the grievances set forth in the address even while the address was being read; and when the deputation came to that part of the address where reference was made to the Government of Bengal Mr. Quinton took up his hat and abruptly left the room. The deputation was headed by the Chairman of the local municipality, Baboo Dulal Chandra Dé, and was it proper for the Chief Commissioner of Assam to conduct himself in the way he did towards such a deputation?

The writer would, in conclusion, ask Mr. Quinton to point out what services he has rendered to the people of Assam during the first year of his administration. Has he during this time taken pains to see things with his own eyes?

60. Referring to the appointment of Atal Behari Dutta as Government

The District Engineer of North Cachar.

overseer to superintend the work of the contractor who has undertaken the construction of a house in North Cachar for the subdivisional officer, a correspondent of the same paper asks the District Engineer, Baboo Priya Nath Banerjee, if it was proper for him to appoint a

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man of Atal Behari's education and abilities quietly to the post on a salary of Rs. 80 per month. Considering that Atal Baboo was, before his appointment to the present post, in the service of the contractor himself, it is easy to guess how very honestly he will discharge the duty of superintending the work of his former master. It having been found necessary to make another appointment worth Rs. 65 per month, the District Engineer invited candidates for the same by advertisements in the newspapers. But the appointment of Atal Baboo was made quietly without any advertisements of a like kind. Does not all this arouse a suspicion that the District Engineer has some interest in common with the contractor and the overseer in the matter of the present work?

The overseer appears to have been appointed not for the work of superintendence, but for helping the contractor, nay, for doing the work which the contractor himself ought to do. In this connection the writer cannot help pointing out that the coolies employed by the contractor are most cruelly treated; they are never paid in cash, but are sent away with small scrips of paper to realize their dues at a place some four days' walk from Ganguny, where they are employed. Has the work been made over to a contractor with the view of harassing the poor people in this way in a season of scarcity? As the overseer is doing all the work which ought to be performed by the contractor himself, as Government materials are being used in the construction of the house, and as the coolies employed have been forcibly brought from the pungs with the help of Government processes, would not the work have been performed at a smaller cost to Government if, instead of being made over to a contractor, it had been entrusted to a passed overseer of the Engineering College? The contractor is being freely permitted to fell trees without payment of any fee, whilst the people are never allowed that privilege in cutting even a single bamboo for their use. Will anybody explain why this unprecedented privilege has been given to the contractor?

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61. A correspondent of the same paper says that the Sub-divisional Officer of Sunamgunge, who received the petition of the mirásdars of Chhatuk for forwarding it to the Chief Commissioner, told the petitioners that they might then go away, he himself undertaking to let them know the result of their petition in due course. But shortly after the Deputy Commissioner enquired for the petitioners, who had, however, all gone away, following the instruction of the Sub-divisional Officer. One mirásdar only, named Sarat Chandra Purkayastha, who was hard by made his appearance, and accompanied the Chief Commissioner's party as they were visiting the several places in Chhatuk. But no one took any notice of him. Did the Sub-divisional Officer play this trick upon the petitioners with a view to making their petition ineffectual? For the petition prayed for the changing of an order made by the Sub-divisional Officer himself.

The Sub-divisional Officer of Sunamgunge.

62. A correspondent of the same paper says that, though Mr. Wilson, Director of Public Instruction in Assam, notified that applications for examinerships would be received up to the 31st August last, yet the selection of examiners was made before the 19th of that month from among his own protégés. Mr. Wilson is only a puppet in the hands of his clerks. What he does is merely to put his signature to anything that his clerks hold before him.

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The Director of Public Instruction, Assam.

63. A correspondent of the same paper says that Mr. Driberg, Inspector-General of Police, Assam, conducts himself in a very highhanded manner towards his clerks, whom he fines and abuses on every

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Mr. Driberg, Inspector-General of Police, Assam.



possible occasion. These men work the whole day and till nine o'clock in the night, and yet cannot satisfy their master. Moreover, they have incessantly to give explanations, which greatly interferes with the progress of their work. Many clerks have already thrown up their situations owing to their harsh treatment by Mr. Driberg, and several others will probably follow their example if the Inspector-General does not see fit to mend his ways. Mr. Driberg also treats applicants for posts to epithets like rascal, d—n and so forth.

NÁRÁYAN CHANDRA BHATTÁCHÁRYYA,

*Offg. Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
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